

APPENDICES

II. THE CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES OF COLONIAL ECONOMY AXIS C?

IMPERIALIST COLONIAL POLICY.

9. The recent history of the colonies can only be understood if it is looked upon as an organic constituent part of the development of capital*: world economy as a whole, beginning with its earliest forms and ending with its latest stage, viz., imperialism.

In proportion as capitalism more and more strongly draws the inner^e colonial areas into the sphere of its world economy based on the so-called capitalist and profit-hunting, there is seen reflected as in a mirror in the economic and political history of the colonial and semi-colonial countries all the characteristic features of the so-called "civilising" and cultural imperialism: of the capitalist mode of production and of the bourgeois social order. In particular, it reveals with merciless accuracy all the methods and practice of "original capitalist accumulation". Its policy, unsurpassed in cruelty, conquest and oppression, bound up as it has been with colonial punitive expeditions, with opium wars and piratical raids for the compulsory provision of the native population with whisky, bibles and trash, as conducted by the most Christian countries of Europe and America was one of the most important factors which accelerated the consolidatic^o of the capitalist structure.

In spite of the disgusting lies of the imperialists and of their reformist lackeys (MacDonald, Otto Bauer & Co.), who maintain that imperialism "brings to the backward races prosperity, progress and culture", the transition to the epoch of monopolist capitalism in no way lightened the weighing upon the many millions of the masses of humanity in the colonial countries. The devastating consequences everywhere brought about by capitalist development, in particular in the first stage of its existence, are reproduced in the colonies to a monstrous degree and at an accelerated rate thanks to the penetration of foreign capital. The progressive results of capitalism, on the other hand, are, for the most part, in the colonies completely imperceptible.

Where in the colonies the ruling imperialist class is in need of

a socis: sup-
 port it first of all allies itself with the ruling strata of the
 previous *szf±l*
 structure, with the feudal lords and with the trading and
 incae\ -lending
 bourgeoisie, against the majority of the people. Everywhere
 imperialism At-
 tempts to preserve and to perpetuate all those pre-
 capitalist forms of ex-
 ploitation (especially in the villages) which serve as the basis
 for the existence
 of its reactionary allies. The masses of the people in these
 countries live
 compelled to pay out enormous sums for the upkeep of the
 military, police,
 and administrative apparatus of the colonial regime.
 The growth of famines and epidemics, particularly among
 the pauperised
 peasantry; the mass expropriation of the land of the native
 population; the